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**United Nations Decade of International Law**

# United Nations Decade of International Law

## Report of the Secretary-General

**Addendum**

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# II. Analytical presentation of information received from States and international organizations

## A. Promotion of the acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law

### 1. Promoting the acceptance of multilateral treaties

23 *bis*. The International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO-Interpol) intends to ratify the 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations in the near future.

### 2. Assistance and technical advice to States to facilitate their participation in the process of multilateral treaty-making

43 *bis*. ICPO-Interpol reported that in many resolutions of its General Assembly, member States were encouraged to ratify the United Nations conventions.

51 *bis*. The International Association for Water Law (IAWL) reported that some of its members had been instrumental in facilitating agreements among countries on international rivers and in advising international river basin commissions in the development of their work.

### 3. Ways and means of implementation of multilateral treaties

71 *bis*. ICPO-Interpol reported that it regularly collaborated with different United Nations organs and agencies, undertaking numerous activities connected to the United Nations conventions. Thus it cooperates in some operations by a role of transmission. For instance, through its Automated Search Facility and international "wanted notices" system, ICPO-Interpol helps the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia locate individuals wanted for war crimes committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia and circulate the warrants issued for their arrest at the international level. It also regularly transmits reports on the evolution of slavery or similar practices and juvenile delinquency to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

## B. Promotion of means and methods for the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, including resort to and full respect for the International Court of Justice

### 2. Suggestions by international organizations and bodies and national societies for the promotion of means and methods for the peaceful settlement of disputes between States

78 *bis*. The Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) transmitted the final report of its 1999 Steering Committee. The purpose of the Committee, established in 1994, is to assist the Permanent International Bureau and the Administrative Council of the Court in preparing for the centenary of the Court in 1999, by making recommendations concerning revision of the Hague Conventions establishing the Court and improvement of its dispute settlement mechanisms. The final report reviews the work of the Steering Committee and sets forth the Committee's final recommendations. Chapters of the report dealt, *inter alia*, with the following issues: analysis of the historical development and practical application of methods of dispute settlement; problems of revision of the conventions; improvement of the dispute settlement procedures under the aegis of the Permanent Court and proposals for 1999. Issues analysed in the report included: freedom to appoint arbitrators who are not members of the Permanent Court; modernization of rules for Commissions of Inquiry; inclusion of international organizations as parties in PCA dispute settlement proceedings; basis for standing of non-State parties; conciliation; creation of facilities for dispute resolution in newly expanding fields; inclusion of provisions on annulment, revision and enforcement of awards; reinforcement of the Convention's ethical considerations; elimination of the parallel existence of the 1899 and 1907 Conventions; reinforcing links between PCA and the United Nations; encouraging the use of future disputes clauses; and other measures to improve and promote recourse to the PCA system.

84 *bis*. The Institute of International Law pointed out that one of the resolutions adopted at its recent session in Berlin (17-25 August 1999), entitled "Judicial and arbitral settlement of international disputes involving more than two States", was relevant to the issues considered in the context of the Decade. Noting, in particular, that international judicial and arbitral dispute settlement is, in general, bilaterally conceived and that the increasing multilateral character of international relations requires an adaptation of the traditional dispute settlement rules, the resolution

addresses this issue in the following sections of its operative part: "Principles", "Disputes involving more than two States as parties", "Intervention"; and "Indispensable parties".

## C. Encouragement of the progressive development of international law and its codification

113 *bis*. ICPO-Interpol reported that it participates in the elaboration of certain United Nations conventions. It contributes to: the revised draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the draft Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Air, Sea, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Crime, and the revised draft Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Crime.

## D. Encouragement of the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law

### 3. Organization at the national, regional and international level of symposia, conferences, seminars, lectures and meetings on selected topics or themes of international law

138 *bis*. Argentina reported that many conferences and seminars organized and coordinated by various members of its National Committee for the Decade had been held in the framework of the Decade. These included: International Days for International Law and Regional Integration, organized by the National University of Catamarca and the Argentine International Law Association (6-8 August 1998); Seminar on incorporation of MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market) norms into the legal systems of the States parties and their entry into force (Argentine Council for International Relations, Buenos Aires, 22 and 23 July 1998); Seminar on integration processes in Europe, organized by the Department of Public International Law of the University of Buenos Aires (March-April 1998); Dissertation on arbitration, held at the Bar Association of the City of Buenos Aires by the Department of Public International Law of the University of Buenos Aires; Course on humanitarian law, organized by the Department of Public International Law of the National University of Tucumán (20 November 1997); Course on international protection of human rights, organized by the Institute for Latin American Integration and Development of the National University of Tucumán; Advanced course on private international law, organized by the National University of Rosario and the Argentine International Law Association (20-26 June 1998); Seminar on dispute settlement within the World Trade Organization, organized by the Institute of International Law of the Argentine Council for International Relations (Buenos Aires, 3-5 November 1997); Study group on international crimes, held at the Institute of International Law of the Argentine Council for International Relations.

148 *bis*. The Court of Justice of the Andean Community reported that it had organized various seminars in member States under the auspices of the European Community for the purpose of disseminating Community law and related matters.

150 *bis*. ICPO-Interpol participated in each event marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It also organizes and/or attends conferences, symposia, working groups and various meetings dealing with topics in connection with certain conventions of the United Nations.

### 4. Training in international law for legal professionals and government officials organized by States and international organizations

172 *bis*. IAWL members have been responsible for the training in international water law of local personnel in such basins as the Nile, the Mekong, the Aral Sea, the southern African rivers, Latin American transboundary rivers, etc.

### 5. Publication of the practice of States and international and regional organizations in the field of international law

188 *bis*. The Court of Justice of the Andean Community reported that it regularly publishes a repertory of its jurisprudence. The Court also maintains a Web page containing its most recent judgements. The Court expressed its interest in possible participation in the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN) project.

### 6. Publication by States, the United Nations system of organizations and regional organizations and institutions referred to in the programme of essays on subjects of international law

190 *bis*. Argentina reported that the following publications had been published on various aspects of international law:

Rey Caro, Ernesto J. and others. International environmental law: new trends. Córdoba, Ediciones

Lerner, 1998; Rey Caro, Ernesto J. and Marcionni, Nelson D. Fisheries in international law: an Argentine perspective. Córdoba, Ediciones Lerner, 1998; Rey Caro, Ernesto J. Issues in international environmental law. Córdoba, Ediciones Lerner, 1998; Rey Caro, Ernesto J. The settlement of disputes in integration processes in America; MERCOSUR. Córdoba, Ediciones Lerner, 1998; Environmental risk and its regulation; international and comparative law. Buenos Aires, Ediciones Abeledo Perrot, 1998; Negro, Sandra (Department of Public International Law of the University of Buenos Aires), Community cooperation on space. Ediciones Ciudad Argentina, 1997; Rebagliati, Orlando R. The role of the legal counsel in the relation between international law and the domestic legal order: an Argentine perspective, *Revista del Colegio de Abogados de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, June 1998*; Barboza, Julio, The ILC and environmental damage; harm to environment. *The right to compensation and assessment of damages* (Peter Wetterstein, ed.). Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1998; Barboza, Julio. *Sine delicto* (casual) liability and responsibility for wrongful acts for international lawyers. *International Law on the Eve of the Twenty-first Century, Views from the International Law Commission* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.4); Barboza, Julio. The saga of liability in the International Law Commission. *Mélanges offerts à Albert Thierry*. Paris, 1998.

199 *bis*. IAWL reported that its members had published articles and books discussing the various issues concerning the legal and institutional aspects of international inland waters and river systems.

## E. Procedures and organizational aspects

### 2. Establishment of national, subregional and regional committees for implementation of the programme

222 *bis*. Argentina reported that since the establishment of its National Committee for the United Nations Decade of International Law in 1993, four main working groups and three ad hoc working groups had been functioning. Activities of the four main groups are related to the four purposes of the Decade. The three ad hoc groups deal with the relations between domestic law and international law; jurisdictional immunity; and the relations between public international law and private international law. Ten other national institutions have also carried out activities for the Decade.